

Group IV: Claims 28-31; and

Group V: Claims 32-45.

Applicant hereby elects Group III, without traverse.

Conclusion

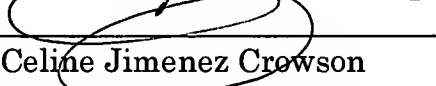
In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests the reconsideration and the timely allowance of the pending claims. Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of this response, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative to expedite prosecution.

If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-1349. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

HOGAN & HARTSON, LLP

Dated: November 6, 2002

By: 
Celine Jimenez Crowson
Registration No. 40,357

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